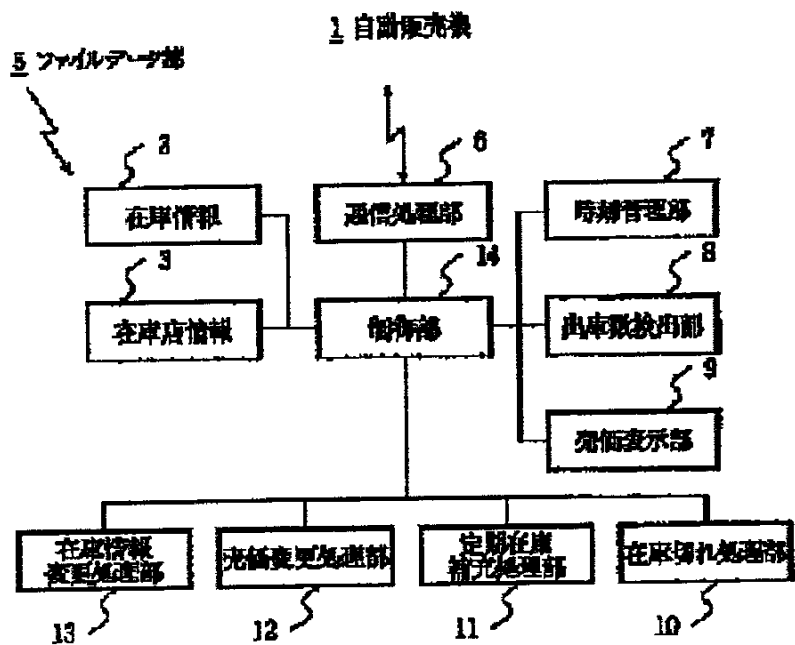


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AUTOMATIC VENDING MACHINE

NEC SOFTWARE LTD

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**Abstract:** PURPOSE: To supply the commodities in stock and to change the retail prices of commodities by adding a communication function and the information files of commodities and stock stores to an automatic vending machine.

**CONSTITUTION:** An automatic vending machine 1 contains a file data part 5 including the commodity stock information 2 and the stock store information 3 on the stores having the stock of commodities, a communication processing part 6 which performs the message communication with the stock stores, a management part 7 which manages the time monitoring of the message communication, the dates and the timer interruption time, a commodity shipping number detection part 8 which detects the quantity of shipped commodities, a retail price display part 9 which shows visibly the retail prices of commodities, an out-of-stock processing part 10 which retrieves the information 2 to retrieve the out-of-stock commodities, a periodical stock supply processing part 11 which gives answers to the stock inquiry messages, a retail price change processing part 12 which monitors the number of elapsed days for the stock and chances the

retail prices, a stock information change processing part 13 which updates the information 2 based on the notification received from the part 8, and a control part 14 which actuates every processing part after detecting the interruptions.

**Int'l Class:** G07F00900 G06F01760 G07F00522

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